RESEARCH ABSTRACT

Title of Project: Determination of personal exposures to Environmental Tobacco Smoke in British non-smokers.

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ABSTRACT: In the space below, please provide a descriptive summary of your proposed research project.

We propose to investigate typical personal exposures of British non-smokers to Environmental Tobacco Smoke, ETS, through a variety of inter-related measures. There are two main reasons for this investigation. The first is that, although considerable data exist quantifying levels of various constituents of ETS in fixed environments, there is relatively little data describing typical total daily exposures. The second is that much of the existing personal exposure data rely on measures of cotinine, a metabolite of nicotine in the body fluids of non-smokers. The accuracy of this measure has been questioned and this study proposes to examine the relationship between levels of cotinine and measures of chemical exposure to several ETS constituents and to questionnaire responses.

The study would randomly select around 300 non-smokers. Each subject would be investigated for exposure to ETS over a 24 hour period. The measures would be a time-activity diary, a post-sampling questionnaire on perceived exposure, salivary cotinine levels (pre- and post-monitoring period) and personal exposures to nicotine and to particulates. The particulate sample would be analysed for ultra-violet, fluorescence and solanesol content as assessments of the contribution of ETS to the total particulates collected. It is anticipated that such a study would prove information useful to the determination of the extent of ETS exposure and to the assessment of best measures of such exposure.

K. Phillips — Signature, Principal Investigator

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